



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA REMINDER

PSC TO HOLD LOCAL PUBLIC HEARINGS IN ST. LOUIS IN LACLEDE GAS COMPANY RATE CASE SETTLEMENT

JEFFERSON CITY---The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold local public hearings in **St. Louis on September 19, 2005**, to receive customer comment on an agreement reached by various parties in a natural gas rate case filed by Laclede Gas Company. Local public hearings also give customers an opportunity to bring any service related problems to the Commission's attention.

The local public hearing schedule appears below:

**J.C. Penney Building
Summit Lounge
University of Missouri-St. Louis
One University Blvd. (formerly 8001
Natural Bridge Road)
St. Louis
Hearing begins at 12:00 pm***

**Emerson Performance Center Theater
Harris-Stowe State University
3026 Laclede Avenue
St. Louis
Hearing begins at 6:00 pm****

*There will be an informal question and answer session from 11:30 am until 12:00 pm at the afternoon hearing with the local public hearing starting at 12:00 pm. The hearing will continue until 3:00 pm or until all persons present have had an opportunity to speak, whichever is sooner.

**There will be an informal question and answer session from 5:30 pm until 6:00 pm at the evening hearing with the local public hearing starting at 6:00 pm. The hearing will continue until 9:00 pm or until all persons present have had an opportunity to speak, whichever is sooner.

These local public hearings will be held in buildings that meet accessibility standards required by the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need additional accommodations to participate in these public hearings, please call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or dial Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearings.

The Commission will hold a hearing regarding the agreement on September 26, 2005, in Room 310 of the Governor Office Building in Jefferson City. The hearing will start at 8:30 am.

Laclede Gas Company filed a natural gas rate case on February 18, 2005 that would have increased the typical residential customer's bill by an average of \$4 a month. Parties in this rate case have now reached an agreement which, **if approved by the Commission**, would result in an average increase of \$1.05 a month or approximately 1% for a typical residential customer.

In addition, the settlement would result in Laclede contributing \$1 million annually to fund a new low-income energy assistance program and expanding its various energy efficiency and conservation programs.

Laclede Gas Company serves approximately 631,000 natural gas customers in the City of St. Louis as well as the Missouri counties of St. Louis, St. Charles, Butler, Iron, Franklin, Jefferson, Madison, St. Francois and Ste. Genevieve.